

The Christian and Missionary Alliance



Foreign Department Principles and Rules


(Revised 1917)

Headquarters

690 Eighth Avenue

New York City

Revised January 1917, as per instructions,
by a Committee of the Board of Managers,
and awaiting final confirmation by General
Council in May 1917.



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OFFICERS OF

The Christian and Missionary Alliance

Headquarters.

690 Eighth Avenue, New York City.

Telephone Bryant 1943. Cable Address "Parousia."

List of Officers, January 1, 1917.

President: Rev. A. B. Simpson, 692 Eighth Avenue, New York City.

Vice-President: Ulysses Lewis.

Honorary Vice-Presidents: John Salmon, M. B. Fuller, George S. Montgomery, O. E. Mallory, A. D. Jackson, John McGahie, J. E. Ramseyer, W. E. Blackstone, James L. Reber, F. W. Flint, C. A. Blanchard, E. D. Whiteside, Reuben Harvey, Paul Rader.

General Secretary: Rev. W. M. Turnbull.

Recording Secretary: F. L. Groff.

Treasurer: David Crear.

Board of Managers.

Rev. A. B. Simpson, President; Mr. David Crear, Mrs. A. B. Simpson, Rev. F. H. Senft, Rev. G. Verner Brown, Mr. F. L. Groff, Rev. R. H. Glover, Rev. J. E. Jaderquist, Rev. J. D. Williams, Rev. E. J. Richards, Rev. Wm. T. MacArthur, Mr. Ulysses Lewis, Rev. A. E. Funk, Rev. E. D. White-side, Rev. W. M. Turnbull.

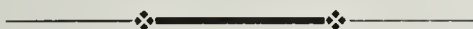
Special Departments of Administration.

1. Finance Department: David Crear, Treasurer; F. L. Groff, Secretary.
2. Home Department: Rev. E. J. Richards, Secretary.
3. Foreign Department: Rev. R. H. Glover, Secretary.
4. Publication Department: Rev. J. E. Jaderquist, Secretary.
5. Educational Department: Rev. W. M. Turnbull, Secretary.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance

Foreign Department

PRINCIPLES AND RULES



MISSIONARY CANDIDATES.

The workers whom the Christian and Missionary Alliance sends forth shall include persons of both sexes, without regard to their denominational preferences.

I. QUALIFICATIONS.

The essential qualifications of applicants for appointment as missionaries include the following:

1. Physical Health and Vigor.

Only persons with good health and strong constitution can endure the unavoidable hardships of missionary life and withstand the trying climate of most foreign fields. Persons who have been healed, and who claim to be depending on the Lord for phy-

sical strength, should manifest a real soundness of body. Any form of disease latent in the system is very liable to be developed by the trying climatic conditions and the necessary exposures of missionary life.

Applicants will be expected, when requested, to furnish medical certificates of good health.

2. Vital Christian Experience.

Applicants should have been genuinely converted, and should possess a vital religious experience. They should give clear evidence by their lives of being wholly consecrated to God, and of having definitely received the infilling of the Holy Spirit and His enduement of power for service.

3. Soundness of Faith.

Applicants must be in fullest accord with evangelical truth, and are expected, without reservation or equivocation, to be able to subscribe to the following declaration:

"I believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; in the verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures as originally given, and their divine authority; in the deity and vi-

carious atonement of Jesus Christ; in the eternal salvation of all who believe in Him, and the everlasting punishment of all who reject Him."

If conscious that their views materially differ in any important point from those usually held by evangelical Christians, they are expected candidly so to state. Should their views on any of the above-mentioned points become changed at any time after their acceptance as missionaries, they must inform the Executive Committee on the field of the change, and be prepared, if requested, to resign their official connection with the Society.

4. Thorough Bible Knowledge.

Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of the Word of God. In addition to being sound in doctrine, they must have such a firm and comprehensive grasp of divine truths as to be able to impart these to others; for the missionary is essentially a teacher. To this end, as well as for the purpose of affording opportunity to the Board of becoming better acquainted with candi-

dates, and of affording candidates an opportunity of coming into closer touch with the work and workers of the Society, and becoming thoroughly familiar with the special lines of truth for which it pre-eminently stands, applicants are usually required to attend the Missionary Institute at Nyack, N. Y., for either a full or partial course, as may be found desirable.

5. Experience in Christian Work.

Essential as are vital piety and a thorough knowledge of the Word, these can never supply the lack of practical experience in Christian work. Every missionary should have been a successful personal worker at home. He should be a master workman in the divine art of soul-winning. While experience in individual work for Christ is so necessary, it is also expected that applicants should have been connected with some form of organized effort for the salvation of souls. One of the best equipments for successful missionary labor is leadership of an Alliance Branch, training in rescue work, city missions, tent work, or experience

in any other form of evangelistic effort.

6. Heroic Missionary Spirit.

Candidates must count the cost of offering themselves for missionary service. They must be prepared for a life of privation, of toil, of loneliness, of danger, sometimes far away from the comforts and advantages of civilized society and protection. They will at times have to endure being looked down upon by their own countrymen and being treated with contempt and injustice by native officials and people. They will require to trust God to meet their needs of spirit, soul and body. But if faithful and trustful, they will find in Christ and His Word a fulness, a sweetness, a preciousness, a joy and strength, that will far outweigh all that they may have sacrificed for Him.

The question of resorting to medical aid and remedies in sickness is left to the discretion of each missionary.

II. MODE OF APPLICATION.

Candidates are expected to satisfy themselves as to the principles and rules of the

Society by a careful reading of its published Manual, and not to offer themselves unless they cordially approve of these and heartily purpose to carry them out.

Applications should be made through the Foreign Secretary upon the printed form provided for this purpose, which will be sent on request, together with a copy of the Manual of Principles and Rules.

The Foreign Secretary will duly present the applications to the Board, and arrange for such meetings with candidates as may be deemed necessary for examination and consultation.

Applicants on the mission fields will be examined by the Executive Committee in charge, and this Committee will at its discretion refer these applications to the Board at home with recommendation.

III. FORM OF AGREEMENT.

Accepted candidates are required, before leaving for the field, to sign an agreement stating that they cordially approve of the principles and practice of the Society and heartily desire to carry out the same, with

such further stipulations as may be deemed necessary in each particular case.

The usual form of agreement to be subscribed to is as follows:

“We, the undersigned accepted missionaries of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, under appointment of the Board, through the solemn call of God and the acceptance of our brethren, and about to proceed to our respective fields, do hereby express our cordial and entire agreement with all the principles of the Christian and Missionary Alliance as expressed in its published Constitution and Manual of Principles and Rules, our perfect harmony of spirit with the work and workers, our joyfulness at being permitted to endure hardship and self-denial, and to engage in loving service for our dear Lord and a lost world, our willingness to submit ourselves to the oversight and direction of the authorities of the Society at home and on the field, our readiness to live lives of dependence upon the Lord, to receive with thankfulness and contentment what He is pleased to send

us for our outfits, transportation and support, and to trust Him for all our needs, whether they shall be supplied by the Board or otherwise.

“We count it so great an honor and privilege to be permitted to preach the Gospel among the heathen, that all considerations of personal convenience and comfort are insignificant in comparison.

“We leave for our fields in a spirit of true-hearted loyalty to the Master and the work of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in every particular. We are satisfied with all that has been done for our personal comfort and are content to trust God for all the future. We solemnly purpose and promise, God helping us, to work in unity with the Board and all the missionaries, sacredly avoiding and discountenancing all criticism and evil speaking, mentioning our grievances, if we ever have any, only to the Chairman or Committee on the field or the Board at home, and if we can no longer work in such accord, we shall feel it our honorable course to ask to be released from

the work, and to serve the Master in some other connection. We go to our field with one supreme purpose—to glorify Christ, to win souls, to hasten His coming, and to trust the Master, and our friends through Him, for all our personal needs.

“We shall unite in praying constantly for the work and the workers, and for the speedy evangelization of the world.”

RESOURCES AND MEANS OF SUPPORT.

1. The Christian and Missionary Alliance will require in all its laborers a spirit of absolute reliance upon God alone for support. No fixed salaries are guaranteed to its missionaries after reaching their fields, but such moderate allowances will be sent them for their actual expenses and needs as the funds provided from the voluntary gifts of God's people shall enable the Board to supply from time to time.

While candidates, therefore, when approved, may be assisted in their outfits, may have their passage money paid for them, and may be supported in whole or in

part by the funds of the Society, their faith must be in God, and their expectation from Him. The funds might fail, or the Society might cease to exist; but if they put their trust in God, He will never fail nor disappoint them.

2. In looking for means to prosecute this work, the Alliance will depend entirely upon the promises and faithfulness of God, through the voluntary gifts of His people, as He may dispose them to contribute. In addition to publishing reports of the work and other missionary literature from time to time, well-matured plans for extending the work through the formation of local auxiliaries and bands and the conducting of conventions and deputational tours will be inaugurated, and such other scriptural methods as may be found practicable.

3. In many instances the support of missionaries on the field is pledged and undertaken by Alliance Branches, groups or individuals at home. The amount usually stated for a missionary's support covers only his or her personal living expenses, and does

not include any of the many other expenses involved in carrying on the work of the mission stations and fields. Supporters at home must not regard the missionaries whom they support as independent representatives under their control, but as regular Alliance missionaries under the care and authority of the Board, the supporters thus standing loyally by the Board in contributing toward the missionaries' support. Notwithstanding such personal relationships, our missionaries are expected to keep looking to God, along with the Board and friends at home, for the supply of all needs, in accordance with the principles of the Constitution. They must realize that special channels and agencies of support have sometimes failed in the past, and may again fail in the future, in which event the Board and missionaries still stand together in faith toward God for the supply of all needs from other sources. No missionary is entitled to regard any pledge of support as a stated salary guaranteed to him or her. With the principles of support thus clearly laid down and

accepted, there can be no question of claims upon the Society for full allowances or the making up of so-called arrearages.

Missionary supporters and contributors should unite with the Board in regarding all our missionaries on the field as one family, for whose united needs we stand together in faith and effort, treating all with the same loving and faithful consideration. It has always been considered the fairest and wisest plan to send uniform allowances on a *pro rata* basis. These allowances are appropriated and sent monthly in accordance with the funds received into the treasury.

4. The problem of consistency in sending out reinforcements, in view of the continual need for the support of the existing work and workers, has engaged the long and prayerful attention of the Board.

As a result the general rule has been adopted of conditioning the sending forth of accepted candidates upon the provision of funds for their outfits, transportation, and at least one year's support, without drawing upon the general treasury. This plan has the added merit

that it tends to throw the waiting candidates upon God in prayer and faith, and also constitutes a test of God's approval to their call and the time of departure for the field. It is understood that contributions for the sending out of new missionaries shall not draw from the already established channels of support, but shall come from separate sources or be in addition to the usual pledges made for the work.

5. Missionaries on the field are allowed to receive sums of money from private sources not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) annually without reporting same to the Board, but all amounts exceeding that sum in the aggregate shall be reported annually to the Board.

6. The matter of the presentation by missionaries of particular financial needs in connection with their field and work engaged the special attention of the Annual Council of 1903, with the result that resolutions were adopted, which in effect read as follows:

"While we as a Society standing in faith toward God for the supply of all financial

needs do not desire in any way to limit the faith of individual missionaries, we nevertheless feel the danger of missionaries presenting to the Alliance constituency the particular needs of their own work, because of thereby diverting funds from the general treasury, and also the unfairness because of the fact that some missionaries have much greater opportunities of appeal than others whose work is quite as needy and worthy. We recommend, therefore, that the Board have a clear understanding with the missionaries, through the Executive Committees on the field, and also with the missionaries at home on furlough, that no special needs shall be presented without the consent of the Board having been obtained. We recommend further that it be understood that missionaries at home shall not ordinarily receive donations for the work, but shall seek to arrange for the sending of all missionary funds to the Treasurer of the Society."

In the subsequent consideration of this subject by the Board of Managers, it was further resolved that it is to be understood that the

presentation of special needs is not to be allowed to divert from the general treasury any ordinary funds pledged by friends of the Alliance; that no special objects shall be presented at conventions or to Alliance companies until after the regular missionary offerings have been received; and it is recommended that where pledges for special objects are made or paid at any convention the donors or the missionaries receiving them send the money to the Treasurer of the Society, to be placed in a special account and duly appropriated and sent to the field for the object designated.

FIELD GOVERNMENT AND METHODS.

1. Executive Control.

a. The government of each of our foreign mission fields is committed to an Executive Committee.

b. The Executive Committee is to be elected each year at the Annual Conference of the missionaries on the respective fields.

c. The Chairman of the Executive Committee is to be nominated by the Conference and elected by the Home Board.

d. The Executive Committee is to be composed of not more than seven (7) and not less than three (3) members, according to the number of missionaries on each field. •

e. The Chairman of each Executive Committee is also to act as Treasurer, and is to render a quarterly account of all receipts and expenditures to the Executive Committee, and also an annual account to the Conference on the field to be audited and forwarded to the Home Board.

f. The Executive Committee is to meet every three months, where the distances are not so great as to make it impracticable; otherwise every six months.

g. The Executive Committee shall exercise full authority on the field, and be directly responsible to the Home Board, under whose authority and supervision it acts.

h. When, at any time, the need arises to divide any of the fields, the Annual Conference shall accordingly present a recommendation to the Home Board, giving reasons for such proposal.

i. New fields shall be held under the care

of the Home Board until the Mission becomes established and ready for the usual form of government.

2. Church Government.

As the Society is undenominational, when a missionary is located in charge of a station, and by the blessing of God converts are gathered, he is at liberty to adopt that form of church government which he believes to be the most scriptural. But a church having been organized, the form of church government must not be changed without authorization. Those succeeding to the charge of a station previously occupied must continue that form of organization instituted by their predecessors, until any proposed change shall have been approved by the Committee on the field and the Board at home.

One object of the Society being to establish self-supporting and self-extending churches, all missionaries must ever keep this end in view. Converts should be stimulated and encouraged in the study of the Word of God; suitable opportunities should be afforded them for the manifestation of spiritual gifts;

and they should be encouraged to help pecuniarily, according to their ability, in the work of God. Native workers, especially, should be afforded all possible help and encouragement; as they become able they should be allowed to bear responsibility, and the element of foreign teaching, pastoral care and supervision of the local churches gradually withdrawn.

3. Arrangement, Training and Location of Missionaries.

Missionaries arriving upon the field shall be received by the Executive Committee, who shall give direction to their work.

Candidates who have been accepted and sent out will, during the first two years on the field, be considered junior missionaries, and will be expected to pursue a definite course of study and to pass periodical examinations in the language. At the end of the two years, should they have been approved, they will be recognized as senior missionaries. But should they have proved unstable, or unable to cope with the difficulties of the language, to bear the climate, to harmonize with their brethren, to adapt themselves to the natives, or should they

otherwise have shown themselves unsuitable, the Executive Committee and Board will either prolong the probation or will make the best arrangements in their power to facilitate their retiring.

Junior missionaries, as a rule, will be placed with the senior missionaries in charge of stations, with whom they will reside, and under whose direction they will assist in the work as far as they can. Should the views of any junior missionary differ from those of the missionary in charge, he is not to attempt to unsettle the minds of the converts and native workers. If the difference of view be such as to prevent happy fellowship, the Executive Committee will, when requested, endeavor to arrange for his residence at some other station as soon as circumstances permit.

Every missionary joining the Society is accepted on the understanding that he will give his whole time and strength to its work. The terms of service on the various fields, between furloughs home, are to be determined by the Board, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committees. Where climate, sickness

or other difficulties demand immediate action to return a missionary, the Executive Committee on the field shall decide the time.

Missionaries on the field will never be appointed to permanent spheres of labor without their cordial concurrence. When such spheres are accepted, the missionaries will be expected to proceed to their destinations without unnecessary delay, and to remain at their posts, unless circumstances of great emergency compel them to leave. Should they not feel happy in their work they must inform the Executive Committee, and even though the cause be irremediable, they must still be prepared to remain for six months, or even longer, if necessary, until suitable arrangements can be made for carrying on the work without them. Patient perseverance is needed, and it should be borne in mind that difficulties are to be expected in every work. The lack of immediately visible results is no ground for abandoning a work begun for God.

In every case, at least six months' notice must, if required, be given by missionaries before leaving their work, except where unex-

pected and alarming illness might require immediate removal. Should illness necessitate leaving the district, the sanction of the Executive Committee should be obtained; and if it be needful to leave the country, a medical certificate should also be procured.

4. Expenditure and Reports.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee on the field is responsible to his Committee and the Home Board for the disbursement of funds remitted to him, or received by the Mission, for preparation of the accounts annually for audit, and transmission of the same to the Home Board for inspection and inclusion in the Annual Report of the Society.

Missionaries in charge of schools, stations or other branches of work are answerable to the Executive Committee for the disbursement of all moneys entrusted to them for the work, and for the preparation of quarterly accounts to be forwarded to the Executive Committee for approval.

5. Retirement and Dismissal.

A missionary desiring to resign his official connection with the Society must give six

months' notice to the Executive Committee, who will take whatever steps may be called for in the case.

Any missionary leaving the work of the Society before the end of the second year of residence on the field shall be required to refund in full all sums expended toward his or her outfit and transportation; if during the third year, three-quarters of the total amount; if during the fourth year, one-half; if during the fifth year, one quarter.

Any missionary leaving the field during the first five years for the purpose of marriage, trade or salaried employment shall, in addition to the above, be required to refund the amount of money received for support from the time of arrival on the field, in the same ratio as already stated¹ for outfit and transportation amounts.

Any missionary leaving the Mission will be required to transfer all moneys received by him for the work and all properties in his charge into the hands of the person appointed to receive them.

Should any occasion of sufficient gravity

arise, the Executive Committee shall have the power of suspending or removing any member of the Mission, in which case they would, of course, act with all possible consideration and subject to the ratification of the Board.

6. Mission Premises.

The Board cannot be responsible for any expenditure not authorized by it nor for any outlay of personal funds on Mission property.

For the effective carrying on of localized missionary work, Mission premises are, of course, required, and these are usually obtained by deeds of rental, mortgage, or purchase of property or by securing sites and erecting buildings thereon. The funds required for such purposes may be supplied in whole or in part from the special funds of the Society. The missionaries may, if they wish, use their own money or contributions from their friends for securing, improving or building such premises. It is clearly to be understood, however, that all such premises, howsoever they may have been provided for, are to be considered to belong to the Society, that is, the Society, and not the individual missionary,

is to be regarded as the tenant, mortgagee or owner, as the case may be; and the funds so used are to be regarded as donations to the Society.

Where new buildings are to be erected, or extensive alterations made in those already existing, whether with private or Mission funds, the plans, character and estimate of cost of the proposed building or alterations are first to be submitted to and approved by the Executive Committee, before such work may be commenced.

7. Native Workers.

The engagement, direction and dismissal of all native workers, even in cases where these are supported by special funds or at the expense of the missionaries themselves, must be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. All native workers should be considerately dealt with, and should not be lightly dismissed or summarily treated. Should any difficulty which may arise be from want of happy relation and co-operation rather than on account of some offense or misdemeanor of intrinsic gravity, the Executive Committee

should afford opportunity, if possible, for a change of location, with the hope of thus overcoming the difficulty.

8. Betrothal and Marriage.

The weighty bearings of these questions on missionary work render special caution necessary on the part of all concerned. Married candidates will be accepted and sent out only after careful consideration of the suitability of both husband and wife.

Candidates if engaged to be married are expected candidly to state the fact, and they will be accepted only when both parties have been approved. Owing to climatic difficulties, unmarried candidates of either sex, whether already engaged to be married or otherwise, will be expected to defer marriage until the completion of two years from the date of the arrival of the one who last reaches the field, and the successful passing by both parties of such examinations in the language as are prescribed for that period by the field concerned.

In case of departure from this rule, they will be required to retire and to make the refund required by Section 5 (Retirement and Dis-

missal), page 25, unless consent to such earlier marriage has been previously obtained from the Board on recommendation of the Executive Committee on the field.

Accepted candidates and missionaries not engaged are earnestly recommended to be most thoughtful and careful before committing themselves to an engagement. Inasmuch as the Board sends to the field only such persons as in its judgment possess the requisite qualifications, it may feel compelled in the event of an unsuitable engagement or marriage to advise retirement from the Society, and in case of non-compliance to exercise its power of dismissal.

REGULATIONS CONCERNING DIS- ABLED AND RETIRED MISSIONARIES.

The following regulations were drawn up by a Special Committee appointed by the Annual Council of 1915, were approved by the Board of Managers, and were finally adopted by the Annual Council of 1916, to go into effect forthwith:

1. That missionaries who have served the

Society for at least one full term, as ordinarily recognized on the various fields, and who have become disabled for service, shall, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee on the field ratified by the Home Board, be eligible to the regular allowances for missionaries on furlough so long as they continue disabled, provided they remain in full fellowship with the Society and have no other reasonable means of support.

2. That missionaries who have served on the field for less than a full term, and who have been disabled for service, shall be dealt with by the Home Board, in consultation with the Executive Committee on the field, on the respective merits of each case.

3. That missionaries who have served the Society for twenty-five (25) years or more, may, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee on the field ratified by the Home Board, retire upon the regular allowances for missionaries on furlough, provided they remain in full fellowship with the Society and have no other reasonable means of support.

4. That missionary widows, unable to continue in the active service of the Society on account of the care of their children, shall be eligible to the same provision as for retired missionaries, subject to the same conditions as aforementioned.

5. That children of retired missionaries shall be eligible to the same provision as children of missionaries in active service.

